

WE CLAIM:

1. A process for preparing a monosheet black and white
5 photothermographic recording material, said photothermographic
recording material being exclusive of a dye-providing compound
and comprising a support and a photo-addressable thermally
developable element, said photo-addressable thermally
developable element being thermally developable under
substantially water-free conditions and consisting of one or
10 more layers, said layers together comprising photosensitive
silver halide, a substantially light-insensitive organic silver
salt, a reducing agent therefor in thermal working relationship
therewith and a binder, comprising the steps of: (i) coating at
least one of the one or more layers of the photo-addressable
15 thermally developable from an aqueous medium; (ii) drying said
layer or layers coated in step (i); and (iii) heating said
photothermographic recording material at a temperature of at
least 35°C in the dark for a period of at least 3 days.
- 20 2. Process according to claim 1, wherein said temperature is at
least 40°C.
3. Process according to claim 1, wherein said temperature is at
least 45°C.
- 25 4. Process according to claim 1, wherein said temperature is less
than 50°C.
5. Process according to claim 1, wherein said period is at least 1
30 week.
6. Process according to claim 1, wherein said heating is carried
out at a relative humidity between 10 and 75%.
- 35 7. Process according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said
photothermographic recording material is heated for 1 week in
the dark at 45°C and 70% relative humidity.
8. A photothermographic recording material obtainable by the
40 process of claim 1.